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Vol 6 No 8

HELLO AGAIN

August 1975

A PERSONAL NOTE: Hope you all are having a relaxing summer.

DATES AND TITLES: SUSPENSE: 10/10/51 should be "Blackjack to Kill" and not "Assassin." It stars Victor Mature.

IN FOND MEMORY: "Two-Ton" Baker, 59, May 4th; entertainer and radio and TV personality...Cannonball Adderley, 46, Aug 8th; called the prophet of contemporary jazz...James Jewell, 69, Aug 5th; producer and director of LONE RANGER, GREEN HORNET, JACK ARMSTRONG, ARMSTRONG OF THE SBI, SILVER EAGLE.

PUBLICATIONS AND GROUPS: After almost a year Replay #41 was received. It is written by Joanne Burger, 55 Blue Bonnet Ct, Lake Jackson, Tex 77566 and she hopes to resume publication. Its subject is fantasy...The Old Time Radio Club of the Denver area is now publishing a local newsletter called This is O T R Denver. Its emphasis is on activities in the Denver area...In my next issue I'd like to mention all local, regional, or national organizations devoted to old time radio. Please let me know of your club, even if I have recently mentioned it. Include person to write to for information, name of club, purpose and activites, frequency of meetings, whether you put out a newsletter. I am only interested in clubs who meet on a regular basins.

SPECIAL TOPIC: Last month I asked for collectors especially interested in news and/or sports; Josh Bray, Box 98, Green Lane, Pa 18054...Earl Grow, Univ. of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Dept of Commun., Milwaukee, Wisc 53201...Bill Watts, 12 Carter Ave, Meriden, Ct 06450...Martin Plascak, RR 27 Box 200, Terre Haute, Ind 47802...Tom Riley, 920 W 9th St, Newton, Ia 50208...Bill Anthony Jr., 1684 Beryl Dr, Pittsburgh, Pa 15227.

Catalogs; Joseph Webb, 5 Valley View Dr, Yonkers, NY 10710; several hundred. Especially interested in Mr. Chameleon, Nick Carter, Sam Spade, Candy Matson, other detectives, J Benny...Jim Yeary, Box 85, Midway City, Cal 92655; 43 reels. interested in BIG JON AND SPARKIE, GUNSMOKE, LUX...Chuck Kalen, 12614 Lomond Blvd, Shaker Hts, Ohio 44120. reels 175-199 including over 20 COLUMBIA WORKSHOP 1946 from disc not seen before.

LOGS: Herbert Carlin, 62 Hilltop Dr, Chappaqua, NY 10514 is looking for a ZERO HOUR log.

PERSONALITIES: Does anyone know the current address of Peter Donald. Mail sent to his 51st St address in New York was returned...Ernie Hack, 2860 SE 20th Ave, Gainesville, Fla 32601 is looking for the whereabouts of Vivian Block, now Mrs. Marsh who used to live in Ansonia, Conn. Also Ernie is looking for any transcriptions of the DOWN HOMERS programs with Slim Cox which were broadcast over WTIC in Conn...Geary Johnston, Pacific Stars and Stripes, Box 15, APo San Fran, Cal 96503 is trying to locate Paul McGrath, Philip Sterling, Barbara Cazar, and Larry Haines...Hal Peary will be an honored guest at the California State Fair in Sacramento on Tues, Sep 2nd. He will be master of ceremonies for the variety show that day.



IF THE BOX IS CHECKED . . . IS DUE FOR ANOTHER YEAR

\$5.50

THE TAPE DECK: Write Al Vesik, 733 San Lucas Ave, Stockton, Cal 95207 if you have purchased a Cartrivision Color Video Tape Deck from Olson Electronics in Akron, Ohio and ^{cont} get hooked up so it will work. Also, if you want the unit for \$175 send Al a SASE for information... Carol Witte is selling tape again: Scotch 176, 1200' \$24.00 a dozen; 1800' \$30.00 per dozen. Write 194 Wyndcliff Rd, Scarsdale, NY 10583. John Olsen Jr, Box 321, Baker, Ore 97814 still selling Oregon Magnetics tape, 1800' \$66.00 for 50 reels...The August issue of High Fidelity has an excellent article on tape editing...Bernie Feitelberg brings up the following points about fair and equitable trading. 1. Know what brands of tape will be used 2. Know the quality of programs you are receiving 3. Know whether you are trading reels or individual shows. It is not fair to send out shows on expensive tape and get cheap tape in return. It also takes much longer to tape individual shows that reels. Make sure you spell out your procedures in front of your catalog so there is no misunderstanding...

MAILING: 4th-class mail for tapes and books is now 19¢ for the first pound and 9¢ for each additional pound.

LET THE BUYER BEWARE: The July 18th issue of "Buyers Guide for Comic Fandom" has a full-page ad from Radio Nostalgia, Box 23, Vauxhall, NJ 07088. Radio Nostalgia was run by Virgil James who many people lost money to. Although much of the material is the same, Barry Brooks informs me that a Thomas Riggs is now in charge of the magazine. Riggs was a 2-year subscriber to Virgil's magazine and never got what he was supposed to either. Let me know of any more details.

NEW ADDRESSES: J Murray Jones, South St, Warsaw, Ontario, Canada.

HERE AND THERE: New Friends; Larry Goyer, 16909 Zero A, Surrey, B.C., Canada V4B 5A8...Dave Pirkola, 3003 Garden, Royal Oak, Mich 48072. Looking for CASEY CRIME PHOTOGRAPHER, CHANDU THE MAGICIAN and other adventure and mystery.

Old Friends; Tom Sills, Box 119, Sterling Hts, Mich 48078 is offering to collectors with small collections 1800' 4-track reels at \$4.00 per reel or 5 reels for \$18.00. Send for his catalog which has 130 reels...Albert Stangler, 37 W 16th St, New York City, NY 10011 is looking for information about the 15-minute CHARLIE CHAN show on from Oct 25, 1937-April 22, 1938, especially the name of the artist in the title roll...Jerry Perchesky, Box 444, Watsonville, Cal 95076 is looking for Sinatra, Crosby, and Lux...Harlan W Zinck, 901 W Irving St, Tumwater, Wash 98502 has 8 transcriptions of assorted PROUDLY WE HAIL shows. He will trade them for Benny or F Allen. Harlan also has some U. N. Story discs, some narrated by Gene Kelly...Ray Nemec, 1631 Carol St, Downers Grove, Ill 60515 is looking for 2 magazines: 1. RADIO GUIDE for the year 1940, Edition E (midwest) 2. MOUNTAIN BROADCAST & PRAIRIE RECORDER 1939-1947. It dealt with live country music on radio. Ray has a large number of Radio Guides, 1940 A Edition-Chicago programs...James Weber, 445 Good Hope St, Norco, La 70079 is looking for QUIET PLEASE...Frank Belcour, 121 Day St, Auburndale, Ma 01666 has BBC music festival broadcast, 1974-the old time English bands-about 5-6 hours...Bob Blume, 315 H St, SE, Auburn, WA 98002 has 3 reels of CAPT. MIDNIGHT Nov 1939-Mar 1940 for sale or trade.

NEW PROGRAMS: In my collection: several new bands. I now have over 150 different bands on radio; HARVEST OF STARS; 5 new SUSPENSE; NOT IN MY COLLECTION; John Olsen Jr has the 88 episodes of CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT, 6 SHERLOCK HOLMES from 1947-48, 24 episodes of THE CLOCK, 60 X-1, Bing Crosby for Chesterfield, complete from 1949-52.

Steve Lewis, 62 Chestnut Rd, Newington, Ct 06111 is looking for STAY TUNED FOR TERROR, 39 stories adapted from the works of Robert Bloch, science fiction writer, It was syndicated in 1945 and 46. If anyone has copies write Steve or Robert Bloch, 2111 Sunset Crest Dr, Los Angeles, Cal 90046.

RADIO IS ALIVE AND WELL: RADIO PLAYHOUSE, a syndicated series of 4 15-minute dramas began Aug 4th. You can hear it in the New York area on WOR-AM from 3-4, mon-Fri. It is sponsored by Bristol-Myers. The 4 segments are: 1. "The Faces of Love" with Joan Lorring and Mason Adams. 2; "The Little Things in Life" written by Peg Lynch with P Lynch, Bob Dryden 3. "To Have and To Hold" with William Redfield, Larry Haines, Charita Bauer 4. "Author's Studio"...Roger Paulson, Box 4, Needham, Ma 02192 has 28 hours of WBZ broadcast mentioned in last month's issue. Send for a list of shows. He will trade hour for hour, reel for reel or the entire package of 28 hours for 24 hours or material...In the fall ABC-TV will show "The Night the Martians Landed" which will recreate, in 2 hours, Orson Welles' 1938 broadcast of THE WAR OF THE WORLDS. Paul Stewart who produced the original show will be a consultant...An updated version of MY FRIEND IRMA will be on ABC-TV starting Jan, 1976. The show will retain the exact format of the radio series...The FCC recently admonished WPRO in Providence for broadcasting an updated version of the WAR OF THE WORLDS. The FCC said that the station did not adequately warn its listeners that the program was a hoax and it seriously frightened many listeners.

NOTES ON SPEED CONTROL by Ray Stanich...Accurate speed control of tape recorders is apparently seldom adhered to by most collectors. I've been taping for 10 years and only recently have I given it much thought. Necessity was the mother of investigation. One of my recorders suddenly developed a bad speed problem. Most speed problems develop slowly so every collector should periodically (at least twice a year) check the speeds of all their machines at all speeds...Fortunately there exists reasonably priced tools to do this testing easily. ROBBINS sells a British reel-to-reel "Test Strobe" #R 39295 which retails for about \$2.50. Until 1975 Lafayette Radio also sold it. It is a hand-held device calibrated for 50 Hertz on one side and 60 Hertz on the other. For phonographs Robbins sells a metal plate Strobe Disc #PSD-4 which sells for about \$2.00. Both should be in every audiophiles possession.

In addition one needs a 60 Hertz strobe lamp to check both units. The easiest method is to either use a fluorescent lamp or a neon lamp. If a neon is chosen, use one with enough brightness, such as a NE 45 or a NE 48 lamp. One has a built-in resistor, while the other requires an external resistor. I built one with a NE 48 lamp, a cable socket, 30K resistor and an AC line cord...The object is to see if the bars on the strobe units stand stationary. If they move in one direction, the recorder is fast. If they move in the opposite direction the speed is slow...Unless one sends his machines into the repair shop for all problems, the following actions can be done by anyone with a little bit of mechanical ability--most of which involves getting the top cover off.

Most recorders use either rubber idler (intermediate) wheels or rubber belt pulleys to drive the capstan flywheel. A few drive the flywheel directly. Rubber wears. This wear usually causes a recorder to be slow. Sometimes the motor hub, which drive the idler of pulley, is made of brass and it too wears. Sometimes this hub and idler/pulley both wear evenly and the speed remains fairly constant. Even steel hubs can wear. If you use the recorder on one speed, the hub will not wear on the other unused speeds. Frequently the speed prob-

lem is not the hub or idler, but the reels take-up assembly binding due to lack of lubrication or worn cotton felt pads. This can show up as wow & flutter in the sound; usually at random intervals.

For those mechanically inclined most minor speed variations can be corrected easily. A suspected worn idler can be replaced. Most parts dealers, however, don't stock motor hubs. An easy way to correct slow speed is to add a layer of reinforced, or electricians, tape around the portion of the motor hub causing the speed variation, being careful not to overlap the ends. More than 1 layer may be needed... As a rule of thumb, if all speeds are fast replace idler or pulley. If all speeds are slow, first check the take-up reel mechanism. If it appears to be dry, oil the felts and clean the rims with alcohol so that the rubber idlers don't slip. If the felts are worn badly they may require a visit to the repairman as it is difficult for a layman to disassemble/reassemble these devices. Should the mechanism appear in good order, then either replace the motor hub or add tape to its rims... Remember a 2% variation will cause a 30 minute program to be off-speed by 36 seconds. Playing it back on another recorder with the opposite variation of 2% causes the program to be 72 seconds off (4%) and so on.

LATE MAIL AND TIDBITS: I had the pleasure of meeting Larry Keith recently. Larry plays Nick Davis on ALL MY CHILDREN... Dave Siegel, 351 Amherst A, Ticonderoga, NY 12883 has 120 hours of SHERLOCK HOLMES including his 4 novels and 52 of Doyle's 56 short stories. Dave is looking for the other four: The Yellow Face... The Gloria Scott... The Adventure of the Three students... The Adventure of the Creeping Man. Dave's latest supplements update following: 10 reels of GOON shows; 10 reels of GUNSMOKE: J's; 26 reels of LUM AND ABNER: 230 LUX.... Steve Lewis; 62 Chestnut Rd, Newington, Ct 06111 is looking for the show FIND THAT CLUE in which author Ken Crossen was the moderator. Ken remembers the show was on the west coast for about 6 months ehly. Ken also did some SUSPENSE and wrote the GREEN LAMA series as Richard Foster. Write either to Steve or Ken Crossen, 1995 Elmcrest Dr, Reno, Nev 89503. Steve's expertise is mysteries and is in touch with many mystery writers... Morgan Tiel, 71 McKinley Ave, Dumont, NJ 07628.

QUESTION: If blank tape has been lying around for a while, either for a couple of months or a couple of years, should it record all right, assuming it was all right to begin with?

That's all for this month.
Write if you get work... Hang by your thumbs

To Please: Jay Hickerson Box C Orange, Ct 06477 (203) 795-6261 \$5.50

